

PENDING CLAIMS
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(As amended December 2, 1997)

1. A composition of matter comprising a plurality of cells containing diverse combinations of first and second DNA sequences encoding first and second polypeptides which form heteromeric receptors, one or both of said polypeptides being expressed as fusion proteins on the surface of a cell.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein said plurality of cells are E. coli.

3. The composition of claim 1, wherein said heteromeric receptors selected from the group consisting of antibodies, T cell receptors, integrins, hormone receptors and transmitter receptors.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein said first and second DNA sequences encode functional portions of heteromeric receptors.

5. The composition of claim 4, wherein said first and second DNA sequences encode functional portions of the variable heavy and variable light chains of an antibody.

6. The composition of claim 1, wherein said cell produces filamentous bacteriophage.

7. The composition of claim 6, wherein said filamentous bacteriophage are selected from the group consisting of M13, fd and fl.

8. The composition of claim 6, wherein at least one of the encoded first or second polypeptides is expressed as a fusion protein with gene VIII.

9. A kit for the preparation of vectors for the coexpression of two or more DNA sequences encoding polypeptides comprising two vectors, a first vector having two pairs of restriction sites symmetrically oriented about a cloning site which can be combined with a second vector, having two pairs of restriction sites symmetrically oriented about a cloning site and in an identical orientation to that of the first vector, wherein one or both vectors contains sequences necessary for expression of polypeptides encoded by DNA sequences inserted in said cloning sites.

10. The kit of claim 9, wherein said first and second vectors are circular.

11. The kit of claim 9, wherein said coexpression is as a fusion protein on the surface of a cell.

12. The kit of claim 11, wherein said cell produces filamentous bacteriophage.

13. The kit of claim 12, wherein said filamentous bacteriophage is selected from the group consisting of M13, fd and fl.

14. The kit of claim 13, wherein at least one of the DNA sequences is expressed as a fusion protein with gene VIII.

15. The kit of claim 9, wherein said two pairs of restriction sites are Hind III-Mlu I and Hind III-Mlu I.

16. A cloning system for the coexpression of two or more DNA sequences encoding polypeptides which form a heteromeric receptor, comprising a set of first vectors having a diverse population of first DNA sequences and a set of second vectors having a diverse population second DNA sequences, said first and second vectors having two pairs of restriction sites symmetrically oriented about a cloning site for containing said first and second populations of DNA sequences so as to allow only the operational combination of vector sequences containing said first and second DNA sequences.

17. The cloning system of claim 16, wherein said first and second vectors are circular.

18. The cloning system of claim 16, wherein said heteromeric receptors selected from the group consisting of antibodies, T cell receptors, integrins, hormone receptors and transmitter receptors.

19. The cloning system of claim 16, wherein said first and second DNA sequences encode functional portions of heteromeric receptors.

20. The cloning system of claim 19, wherein said first and second DNA sequences encode functional portions of the variable heavy and variable light chains of an antibody.

21. The cloning system of claim 16, wherein said coexpression of two or more DNA sequences encoding polypeptides which form a heteromeric receptor is on the surface of cell.

22. The cloning system of claim 16, wherein said cell produces a filamentous bacteriophage.

23. The cloning system of claim 22 wherein said filamentous bacteriophage selected from the group consisting of M13, fd and fl.

24. The cloning system of claim 23, wherein at least one of the DNA sequences is expressed as a fusion protein with the protein product of gene VIII.

25. The cloning system of claim 16, wherein said two pairs of restriction sites are Hind III-Mlu I and Hind III-Mlu I.

26. A plurality of expression vectors containing a plurality of possible first and second DNA sequences encoding polypeptides which form a heteromeric receptor exhibiting binding activity toward a preselected molecule, said DNA sequence encoding heteromeric receptors being operatively linked to genes encoding surface proteins of a cell.

27. The expression vectors of claim 26, wherein said expression vectors are circular.

28. The expression vectors of claim 23, wherein said heteromeric receptors are selected from the group consisting of antibodies, T cell receptors, integrins, hormone receptors and transmitter receptors.

29. The expression vectors of claim 26, wherein said first and second DNA sequences encode functional portions of heteromeric receptors.

30. The expression vectors of claim 29, wherein said first and second DNA sequences encode functional portions of the variable heavy and variable light chains of an antibody.

31. The expression vectors of claim 26, wherein said cells produce filamentous bacteriophage.

32. The expression vectors of claim 26, wherein said filamentous bacteriophage are selected from the group consisting of M13, fd and fl.

33. The expression vectors of claim 32, wherein at least one of the encoded first or second polypeptides is expressed as a fusion protein with gene VIII.

66. A vector comprising two copies of a gene encoding a filamentous bacteriophage coat protein, one copy of said gene capable of being operationally linked to a DNA sequence encoding a polypeptide of a heteromeric receptor wherein said DNA sequence can be expressed as a fusion protein on the surface of said filamentous bacteriophage or as a soluble polypeptide.

67. The vector of claim 66, wherein said two copies of said gene encode substantially the same amino acid sequence but have different nucleotide sequences.

68. The vector of claim 66, wherein said one copy of said gene is expressed on the surface of said filamentous bacteriophage.

69. The vector of claim 66, wherein said bacteriophage coat protein is M13 gene VIII.

70. The vector of claim 66, wherein said vector has substantially the same sequence as that shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO: 1).

71. A vector comprising sequences necessary for the coexpression of two or more inserted DNA sequences encoding polypeptides which form heteromeric receptors and two copies of a gene encoding a filamentous bacteriophage coat protein, one copy of said gene capable of being operationally linked to one of said two or more inserted DNA sequences wherein said DNA sequence can be expressed as a fusion protein on the surface of said filamentous bacteriophage or as a soluble polypeptide.

72. The vector of claim 71, wherein said two copies of said gene encode substantially the same amino acid sequence but have different nucleotide sequences.

73. The vector of claim 71, wherein said one copy of said gene is expressed on the surface of said filamentous bacteriophage.

74. The vector of claim 71, wherein said bacteriophage coat protein is M13 gene VIII.

75. The vector of claim 71, wherein said vector has substantially the same sequence as that shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO: 5).

76. The composition of claim 1, wherein said plurality of cells is a plurality of prokaryotic cells.

77. The composition of claim 76, wherein said vectors are filamentous bacteriophage.

78. The cloning system of claim 21, wherein said first and second vectors are filamentous bacteriophage.

79. The expression vectors of claim 26, wherein said vectors are filamentous bacteriophage.

80. A composition of matter comprising a plurality of cells containing diverse combinations of first and second DNA sequences encoding first and second polypeptides which form heteromeric receptors, one or both of said polypeptides being expressed as fusion proteins on the surface of a cell.

81. A plurality of expression vectors containing a plurality of possible first and second DNA sequences encoding polypeptides which form a heteromeric

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receptor exhibiting binding activity toward a preselected molecule, said DNA sequence encoding heteromeric receptors being operatively linked to genes encoding surface proteins of a cell.